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Coronavirus Update 10-2-20

The Coronavirus Planning Team
Sacred Heart University

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Fri 10/2/2020 5:59 PM

coronavirusplanningcontactus@sacredheart.edu

Coronavirus Update 10-2-20

Dear members of the Sacred Heart University community,

We want to update you on testing and the positive and recovered cases we have had since we communicated on Tuesday.

Testing

Our ramped-up random testing of asymptomatic students went well this week, and we are processing the results. We tested more than 1,200 students and some faculty and staff. Next week, we begin saliva testing and will test even more community members. The testing method, called SalivaDirect, was developed by researchers at the Yale School of Public Health. It was granted an emergency use authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and has been used to test asymptomatic players and staff in the NBA. We are one of the first education institutions to use this test—if not the very first.

Scent Tents

You may have seen our scent tents all over the news this past week. Along with our local stations, the story was covered nationally by ABC and NBC and their affiliates around the country.

Active Cases

On Wednesday, we had seven new reported COVID-19 cases—five off campus and two on campus (one each in Scholars Commons and Frassati). We had six students—three off campus and three on campus—recover and leave isolation on Wednesday.

Yesterday, we had 15 new cases—five off campus and 10 on campus (five in Scholar Commons in the same suite as previous cases, three in Roncalli and two in Oakwood). We also had 15 students recover and leave isolation yesterday—nine off campus and six on campus.

Our total number of active cases is 109 up from 102 on Tuesday with a seven-day rolling average of 7.6, which is down from 8.4 on Tuesday. More details can be found on our [COVID-19 Dashboard](#).

Get Checked Out if You Have Symptoms!

We have heard some reports of students who have symptoms of the virus not reporting them and getting a test. You need to contact health services if you have symptoms and follow the instructions they give you. There is absolutely no stigma attached to testing positive. Once you have been directed to isolate or quarantine, please don't go to class to tell your professor you will be moving to online learning. You should do that electronically.

It is going to be a beautiful weekend with fall-like weather, and there will be lots to do on campus. Consider renting some outdoor games at the concierge booth, stop by the comedy show beginning at 8:30 in the UC tonight, do some tie-dye tomorrow on the patio lawn or sign up for the PJs at JP's event sponsored by SHU Dining. Whatever you decide to do, have a great weekend!

The Coronavirus Planning Team

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